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COUNTRY

SUBJECT

France

Jean ORCEL of the Staff of the French High

Commission for Atomic Energy.

PLACE ACQUIRED

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- 1. Jean ORCEL, professor of mineralogy at the National Museum of Natural History, in Paris, is attached to the French High Commission for Atomic Energy. His assignment is to train student-prospectors in the search for uranium deposits.
- 2. These students, who number about thirty, attend school in Paris after which they spend three to six months at Antraigues in Auvergne where there are uranium-bearing formations. Ultimately these men are sent to French Equatorial Africa where uranium deposits much more important than these in Metropolitan France have been discovered.
- ORCEL is directed in this work by Frederic JOLIOTCURIE, the Communist High Commissioner for Atomic Energy in France. Formerly ORCEL was a practicing Catholic and a rightist, but since the war he professes the greatest admiration 3. for the Soviets and considers with animosity those of his colleagues who refuse to become Communists.



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